

VILLA FLEEING TO SIERRA FOOTHILLS

FLYING COLUMNS OF CAVALRY ARE TRYING TO BAR BANDIT'S ESCAPE

NATIVES AID U. S. TROOPS

American Soldiers Now Operating in Territory Often Raided by Villa New Raid Is Made Across the Border.

El Paso, Tex.—A wireless dispatch from Casas Grandes to Columbus states that Villa is flying southward toward the foothills of the Sierras and the rapidity of his flight is hastening the American pursuit. All arms of the service are being used in an attempt to force the bandit into a corner.

The Mexican residents of the section, which has been ravaged time and time again by Villa bandits, are freely giving information concerning Villa's flight, supplies, armament and strength to the American military authorities.

While much of this information has been too indefinite to be of value, it is presumed that the knowledge that the Americans are kept informed as to his movements has influenced the bandit chieftain to the greatest haste in his retreat.

Although the United States troops are following closely in his wake, so far, it is stated, no fighting has taken place.

The ranch of C. E. Kelly, former mayor of El Paso, 32 miles east of here, has been raided by Mexican bandits, who drove off a number of cattle and badly beat the caretaker.

Two detachments of the Eighth cavalry were sent in pursuit of the bandits. One troop started at full gallop from Fabens, two miles from the ranch. The second left Yaleta, some miles on the other side, at the same time in an effort to cut them off from the river.

BRITISH CAPTURE TRENCHES

Infantry Successfully Storm First and Second Line Works at St. Etloi. 600 Yards Taken.

London.—"The British infantry has stormed and taken first and second line German trenches along a front of 600 yards at St. Etloi," says the British official communication issued on March 27.

The text of the statement reads: "This morning, after exploding mines, infantry of the Northumberland Fusiliers and Royal Fusiliers attacked the German positions at St. Etloi."

Successfully taking first and second line trenches on a front of some 600 yards, heavy casualties are known to have been caused to the enemy. Two officers and 158 men were taken prisoners.

"The artillery activity today has been mainly confined to the neighborhood of Angres, Wulverghem, St. Etloi and Wettie."

"Last night and today there has been much mining activity. At La Boisselle we successfully exploded a mine. To the south of Neuville-St. Vaast and near Hohenloern redoubt there has been crater fighting in which we were successful."

"Opposite Hulluch the enemy exploded mines last night, damaging our trenches and causing some casualties. We are established on the crater formed by the explosion."

Berlin Admits Loss.

Berlin.—More than 100 yards of German trenches near St. Etloi have been blown up by the British. German army headquarters have announced.

Tulsa Oil Wells Burn.

Tulsa, Okla.—Damage estimated at \$1,000,000 was done in the oil fields near Drumright, when a fire started in refuse spread to the wells. Twelve wells were burned, 21 derricks were destroyed, and many thousands of barrels of oil consumed.

ONE AMERICAN LOST.

He Was Killed When British Steamer Englishman Sunk.

Washington.—Advices to the state department from Bristol, England, said one American, T. Buckley, a horseman, apparently was lost in the sinking of the British steamer Englishman and that the total loss of life was seven horsemen and three members of the crew.

Gunboat Sails For Mexico.

New Orleans, La.—The United States gunboat Wheeling has sailed from here for Southern Mexico. It was stated the gunboat's destination was Carmen, state of Campeche.

Clubs For Swiss Soldiers.

Berne, Switzerland.—The George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and Woodrow Wilson houses, three clubs for Swiss soldiers, the money for which was given by the American colony, have been opened.

Pass Appropriation Bill.

Washington.—The senate has passed the urgent deficiency appropriation bill carrying approximately \$3,500,000, most of which is for navy yards and naval repairs.

Shackleton Returns Home.

Sydney, N. S. W.—Lieut. Sir Ernest H. Shackleton has returned from his Antarctic expedition. News of the achievements of the expeditions is withheld for the present.

ARMY BILL PASSES HOUSE

Vote For Hay Measure Was 402 to 2. Makes Peace Strength of Regular Force 140,000 Men.

Washington.—The Hay army increase bill, providing for a regular army peace strength of 140,000 fighting men instead of the present 100,000, has passed the House by a vote of 402 to 2. It goes to the Senate for immediate consideration virtually as drafted by the House committee.

The negative votes were cast by Representative Britten, Republican, of Illinois, and London, Socialist, of New York. Mr. Britten opposed the bill because he favored a still further increase in the army, and Mr. London because he favored no increase.

The bill is the first of the great national preparedness measures urged by President Wilson to pass either House, although various related measures have been approved. It was finally adopted only after Representative Kahn, ranking Republican member of the military committee, had again not defeat, this time 213 to 191, in his effort to increase the authorized strength of the regulars to 220,000.

Besides providing for 140,000 enlisted men as the peace strength of the standing army, exclusive of officers, hospital and quartermaster corps and unassigned recruits, the bill, as passed by the House, provides for the building up of a force of 425,000 federalized national guardsmen within five years. It provides for an officers reserve corps of 50,000, for a complete industrial reserve and for new recruiting systems for both the regular army and the national guard.

It also contains an authorization for summer training camps, from which a third force of federal volunteers is expected to grow, and provides that national guardsmen who will receive the benefits of the militia pay feature of the bill shall be subject to immediate draft into the federal service in war time.

The only other important amendment carried by a vote of 224 to 180, despite his opposition, was that striking out the entire section which proposed to have the government embark into a nitrogen manufacture project, which aroused opposition on the ground that it involved immense expenditures in conjunction with private enterprise.

An amendment by Representative Good, Republican, of Iowa, provides that when any munition manufacturer refuses to make supplies for the government the plant may be taken over by the public. It was adopted.

The Gardner amendment, under which enlisted men may be furloughed to the reserves at the end of two years if their commanding officers approve, was adopted—204 to 198.

PEONS FIRE ON U. S. TROOPS

Unofficial Report Says Detachment Fired Into and Six Wounded—Rifle Fire Is Returned.

El Paso, Tex.—Unofficial reports from United States troops have been atacked unexpectedly by Mexican peons, said to have been aided by Carranza soldiers, at El Valle. Six Americans were wounded. The fire was returned by the Americans. Several Mexicans were killed and eight are reported to have been wounded.

The report of the engagement was brought here by an official of the Mexican Northwestern Railroad, who came from Casas Grandes. He received his information from Guy Taylor, the Mormon scout who led Col. George A. Dodd's rescue expedition to Colonia Dublan.

No official report of the fighting has been made public, and an effort to get official confirmation has been unavailing. The wounded Americans are said to have been brought back to Colonia Dublan, Gen. Pershing's headquarters.

The same authority reported that the two colored troops injured in the railroad accident between Cumbre and Chico Station were refused aid by the Carranza officers. A few hours after the accident Gen. Betani is said to have passed with a military train en route for Colonia Dublan. The injured men asked permission of the Carranza officer to ride back to the base hospital, which was denied them.

From last accounts the injured troopers, after suffering the tortures of thirst, in addition to pain from their wounds, were reached by an ambulance corps rescue detachment and brought back to Colonia Dublan.

LIQUID FIRE GAINS GROUND.

French Will Adopt Reprisals Against the German Forces.

Paris.—Liquid fire has been the means by which the Germans gained the portions of trenches mentioned in recent official communications, says the Journal des Debats, and the military committee of the Chamber of Deputies is inquiring into methods for the protection of French troops against such fire attacks and the use of a similar weapon in reprisal.

"One can easily understand," says the newspaper, "the superiority of this terrible arm over the bayonet. It gives to the attack the power and cruelty to which our communications are bearing witness."

The newspaper adds that France should pay the Germans in their own coin.

Cole Younger Is Dead.

Lees Summit, Mo.—Cole Younger, famous outlaw of border days, died at his home here, after a lingering illness. He was 72.

Cavalryman Found Wounded.

Douglas, Ariz.—Trooper Cuttle of the First United States cavalry, who was found in a box car at Rodeo, N. M., with a bullet wound in his head, is still unconscious, with his chances of recovery doubtful. Army officers have been unable to find out how Cuttle was wounded. Neither do they understand what he was doing in the box car at Rodeo, which is 35 miles north-east on the New Mexico-Arizona border.

STEAMER SUSSEX HIT BY TORPEDO

CAPTAIN OF BRITISH CROSS CHANNEL STEAMER SAYS HE SAW TORPEDO.

AMERICANS WERE ABOARD

Loss of Life May Be Greater Than Was First Reported—Five Americans Are Among the Missing.

London.—Although there is still some uncertainty as to the loss of life in the disaster to the cross-channel steamer Sussex, there is no longer any doubt that the death list is much larger than the early figures indicated. The latest figures compiled in London show as many as 103 persons missing, including five Americans.

The Sussex had 436 persons aboard, of whom the following have been accounted for: Landed at Dover, 72; landed at Boulogne, 250; dead at Boulogne, 3; dead at Dover, 3.

The list of missing may be slightly diminished by the fact that some of the passengers who landed continued their journey without reporting their safety.

The casualties occurred in two ways—first, in the explosion when the ship was struck, and second, by drowning when two lifeboats capsized.

Capt. Moffet, together with several of the officers and a number of the passengers, asserts that the ship undoubtedly was torpedoed. Most of these witnesses declare they saw the torpedo when it was a distance of about 100 yards. Unfortunately they say there was not time enough to avoid it, although the captain made an attempt to save his vessel by a quick maneuver.

GERMANY WILL DISAVOW

If Submarine Torpedoed Sussex Commander Will Be Punished—No Americans On Boat Lost.

Washington.—With all evidence indicating that the British channel steamer Sussex, carrying American citizens, was the victim of a torpedo, it was stated authoritatively here that if a German submarine made the attack the imperial government would disavow the act, punish the submarine commander, offer reparation and satisfy the United States that the act was in violation of instructions. Thus it seems that the issue might narrow down to the question of whether the United States would be willing to accept such a declaration from the Berlin government.

President Wilson is awaiting with deep concern the receipt of conclusive evidence, not only in regard to the Sussex, aboard which several Americans narrowly escaped death, but as to the sinking of the British steamship Englishman. One American life is said in the latest official reports to have been lost when the Englishman went down.

Detailed information gathered by the American embassy at Paris indicates that no Americans lost their lives on the Sussex.

All the Americans whose names were on the passenger list have now been accounted for, the embassy states. It is possible, however, that there may have been among the passengers some Americans whose names were not inscribed.

CONGREGATE ON BORDER.

Del Rio, Texas, Is Alarmed By Mexican Troops Massing.

Del Rio, Tex.—Increased uneasiness was felt in this section when it was learned that nearly 1,000 Mexican soldiers had congregated at a dozen places within thirty miles of the border. In Las Vacas, opposite here, it is claimed the troops are Carranzistas.

Three hundred soldiers of the Twenty-fourth infantry have arrived here for a permanent patrol.

Mysterious Murder.

Dallas, Texas.—City and county authorities are completely at loss to explain the motive for the murder in a suburban park of Miss Zoella May Cramer, 24, a trained nurse. The body was found in the park surrounding the Oak Cliff High School building. Near by was found her purse, containing \$20 and other articles of jewelry, indicating robbery was not a motive. Physicians, however, expressed the belief the woman had been criminally assaulted, but no official announcement was forthcoming.

Activity at Saloniki.

Athens.—Dispatches from Saloniki say that the frontier actions, which had hitherto been considered merely as trying out operations on the part of the Bulgarians are now assuming the character of a general attack against the advanced allies. Considerable vigor is being displayed and heavy artillery is being employed on both sides. It is said that in both military and diplomatic circles there is a belief that the long prophesied effort to drive the allies into the sea has begun.

May Call Out Texas Guard.

Austin, Texas.—While an official statement is lacking, the opinion obtained in well-informed circles here is that the Texas National Guard will probably be called out soon for duty on the Mexican border. This belief was given impetus when it was learned that the adjutant general and the heads of the department held a private conference. None of the officials would make a statement, but the impression prevailed that the conference was the result of a telegram received

VILLA ELUDES PURSUERS

Bandit Extricated Himself From Dangerous Position and Goes South. Weather Retards Aeroplanes.

San Antonio, Texas.—Francisco Villa has escaped from the Mexican troops that had checked him near Nacimiquipa, and three columns of American cavalry are pursuing him. Already they are almost 250 miles south of the border, and unless Mexican forces bring the elusive bandit to another stand this distance will be greatly increased.

Villa's success in extricating himself from the dangerous position into which he had been driven by the American punitive force was related in a detailed report of Gen. Pershing that reached Gen. Funston. Gen. Funston forwarded the report to Washington without making public any but the essential features.

Col. Dodd is commanding the advanced columns that are riding hard after Villa and his men, and Gen. Pershing has divided his forces so as to provide supporting columns along the thinly stretched lines of communications from his most advanced base at El Valle. From El Valle another line is being maintained back to Casas Grandes, from where communication with the border is maintained. Gen. Pershing himself is somewhere south of Casas Grandes directing the work of holding together his forces and directing as far as possible the operations of Col. Dodd. Cavalry is being used along the lines communicating with El Valle, where a detachment of infantry is stationed.

Three aeroplanes are at El Valle and will be used in scouting as soon as the high winds that have been sweeping subside, and which, according to Gen. Pershing, have made effective assistance by them impossible. Of the eight machines that went into Mexico, two are still out of commission. They were damaged in the flights from Columbus to Casas Grandes.

ASKS FOR MILITIA AID

Sheriff At El Paso Requests Texas Governor For Protection On Frontier—Federal Officials Object.

El Paso, Texas.—Evidence of the seriousness with which El Paso authorities regard the border situation has been supplied in an announcement by Sheriff Edwards that he had telegraphed Gov. Ferguson that he believed Texas National Guard troops should be sent to the frontier.

Sheriff Edwards said he "did not wish to be considered an alarmist," but that developments in Mexico convinced him that additional protection was needed along the border. His action, taken subsequent to that of the Arizona authorities in directing that the border communities of national guard of that state be "routed to full strength, gave force to the tension which will before had shown signs of breaking down."

Chief of Police Edwards, who is a point of view between federal and local authorities here. The first point is that while the situation is filled with dangerous possibilities, there is no reason to fear any immediate crisis. Local authorities are positive there is grave danger of an outbreak that will set the border ablaze.

Two companies of the Seventh infantry were ordered to report to police headquarters. Information as to the reason for the order was refused.

The federal officials are showing increasing irritation over alarming reports circulated here night and day and which are being sent out in news dispatches. They fear the effect these reports will have on the Mexicans, who have shown many signs in the last few days of increasing restlessness.

Consul Edwards at Juarez and American resident in the Mexican town, has telegraphed the state department protesting against the circulation of these reports and asking that they be stopped. It is understood similar messages have been sent to Washington from other federal officers with a direct recommendation that a censorship be established here.

Refuse To Disarm.

Washington.—The entente allies, replying individually to Secretary Lansing's suggestion for the disarmament of all merchant ships, have, in effect, declined the proposal.

Kentucky At Vera Cruz.

Vera Cruz.—The United States battleship Kentucky has arrived here and anchored inside the harbor. The United States gunboat Marietta has sailed for Tampico. Everything is quiet in Vera Cruz.

Taggart Takes Oath.

Washington.—Thomas Taggart, the Democratic national committeeman from Indiana, appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Shively, has taken the oath of office.

Augusta Plans To Rebuild.

Augusta, Ga.—Having perfected the plans for the immediate needs of the destitute, Augustans have begun to discuss plans for rebuilding the burned district. An optimistic spirit prevails among the business men and work will go forward as soon as the insurance has been adjusted. Members of the special relief committee of 15 continued to receive contributions, and every effort will be made to raise \$50,000.

Funeral For Former Bandit.

Lee's Summit, Mo.—Funeral services for Cole Younger were held here at the Christian Church, where the former bandit was converted three years ago.

Jap Steamer Missing.

London.—The Japanese steamship Hokoku Maru, long overdue, has been posted as missing at Lloyd's. She left Portland, Ore., Nov. 8, with wheat for the United Kingdom, and was last reported leaving Singapore, Dec. 20.

TENNESSEE IN BRIEF

Memphis.—A Kaminsky's store, in this city, was burglarized and 12 dozen shirts were stolen. The burglars entered the store by breaking the glass in the front window.

Bristol.—News has been received here that Senator John K. Shields had recommended former Gov. John I. Cox for the position of postmaster at Bristol, to succeed Dr. A. J. Roller, Republican.

Chattanooga.—Fourteen residences, variously located in the city and suburbs, were burned on March 23, with losses estimated at approximately \$50,000. Small fires broke out so frequently that twice in the afternoon the fire department found itself without equipment to respond to alarms, all eight companies being away from their stations.

Nashville.—The only fatality as a result of the big East Nashville fire was that of Johnson R. Woods, a negro, who was struck by a live wire as he was being taken from his home near Main street. The heat was so intense that the white man who was helping the lame negro had to drop the body. It was quickly burned to a crisp.

Memphis.—Suit for \$50,000 damages has been filed here in the circuit court by Elliott Loving against Geo. C. Bennett and wife. Allegation of his wife's affections is the charge. Bennett is a millionaire and one of the best known race horse men in the South. Loving maintains that the Bennetts have conspired against him and have exerted every influence available to turn his wife against him.

Alexandria.—A terrific wind of a cyclonic nature was the cause of three fires at this place recently. The residence of J. S. Turner had a narrow escape when the wind caused a box of ashes on the back porch to ignite. The residence of John Pullard caught, but was extinguished before much damage was done. Later the residence and all outhouses except the barn of Frank Foutch, living about three miles east of here, were completely destroyed.

Ducktown.—Fire did damage in excess of one million dollars here, when the Tennessee Copper Company's T. & T. (powder plant) at Copper Hill was totally destroyed. The building destroyed was devoted to the manufacture of tri-nitrotol. The fire was one of the worst in the history of the copper basin, and was featured by a most brilliant pyrotechnic display, accompanied by a series of explosions. One life was lost, and the fact that a large number of men were not injured is a miracle. The fire was caused by some acid boiling over from a kettle and setting the woodwork on fire. The blow tank, which is known as the acid mixing tank, caught fire in spite of every effort made to save it. The firing of this tank sent flames into two "trolley oil" tanks, causing an explosion that sent fragments of iron flying through the air for a distance of a half mile or more. The assistant mining superintendent, George Stroll, was struck by some of the flying missiles and given medical attention, he was so badly injured that he died. The plant employed about 175 men to the shaft, three shifts to the twenty-four hours.

Nashville.—While thousands are without homes in East Nashville that was swept by the greatest fire Nashville has ever known, the public subscription fund for the relief of the needy has soared to more than \$20,000. Various associations of the capital are working to aid the sufferers and very little hardship, other than the loss of property and belongings, has been reported. Hundreds of the fire victims have been housed in the hotels of the city, and hundreds of homes of those not afflicted have been opened to the homeless. Offers of aid from other cities have been turned down with thanks by the citizens' committee. Fears that those who were searching among the ruins might be injured by falling walls, the police and fire departments have dynamited several large walls. Among those considered most dangerous were the walls of the Warner school building. A large extent of territory is laid waste. The fire started on North First street, near Oldham, and running southeast diagonally the flames reached Tenth street to the east after traveling fourteen blocks south to Hunter street. The fire zone was three blocks wide, though in some blocks a number of the houses were damaged and not destroyed. Many blocks were swept clean. A few blocks were skipped by the fire.

Springfield.—The special election, which had been called for March 25 to choose a school commissioner for the city of Springfield, has been postponed to allow more votes to qualify through tax payments and registration.

Cleveland.—Abe Shaddrick, residing in the Big Spring vicinity, has been severely injured by a falling tree. Shaddrick was engaged in the work of clearing some land, and was chopping down the tree when it suddenly fell. His condition is pronounced critical.

Still, the woman who found a diamond in the hen rather followed the precedent of the yoke who killed the goose that laid golden eggs.

Those European nations who are stealing our diplomatic code apparently are in complete sympathy with our feeling against secret diplomacy.

It is getting so now that when a man's wife leaves home and he calls her darling in his first letter, she suspects something and is tempted to take the next train home.

HOUSE LISTENS TO PROBE TESTIMONY

IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS BY COMMITTEE IN SECRET SESSIONS.

NEWSPAPER MEN BARRED

Legislators Reverse First Decision to Hold Open Session of Edgington Hearing—News at the State Capitol.

Nashville.—After having once voted to conduct an open investigation of the charges against Judge Edgington, the house has reversed itself and by a vote of 51 to 24 has adopted a resolution to exclude from the hearings all persons not members or attaches of the house.

The resolution changing the plan of action was offered by Representative Elkins, of Gibson, at the suggestion of Speaker Cooper, who is chairman of the investigating committee. The resolution was opposed by Representative Levine of Hamilton, who urged that newspaper men be admitted to the sessions.

When the house adjourned the investigating committee went into executive session, only other members of the house being admitted, and the sergeant at arms ejected some half dozen newspaper men who are here to report the proceedings.

Charges against Attorney-General Estes of Memphis will be taken up when the testimony in the Edgington case is concluded. Probably not more than three days will be devoted to each case.

Speaker W. P. Cooper has announced the appointment of Representative A. B. Galloway, Shelby; Frank West, Knox; Clyde Shropshire, Davidson; H. T. Stewart, Cannon; John B. Ridley, Williamson; W. R. Miller, Lauderdale; W. J. Ward, White; D. A. Greene, Hamblen, and G. R. Barnes, Washington, as members of the investigating committee. Messrs. West, Greene and Barnes are Republicans, and the others are Democrats.

Speaker Cooper and John D. Green, clerk of the house, were named, by resolution, ex-officio members of the committee, to serve as chairman and secretary, respectively.

The report of the lawyers' committee appointed by the Memphis bar to consider the charges against Judge Edgington was read before the house. Many Memphians testify.

Great progress has been made in the legislative investigation of charges against Judge Jesse Edgington, and on March 24 the committee adjourned until Monday, when the hearing will be resumed.

The house will take up the charges against Attorney-General Estes immediately after disposing of the Edgington case.

Pete Monteverde of Memphis, who alleged that he gave Judge Edgington \$1,000 to modify an injunction against a brewing company, was the star witness. Monteverde was on the stand for more than an hour. He was closely questioned regarding his charges and was frequently interrogated by members of the house.

Israel Peres testified about his visit to Judge Edgington at the request of certain persons to give the judge a chance to resign and avoid impeachment charges.

Harry B. Anderson, who demanded of Judge Edgington in open court either to force a Memphis paper to prove its charges by citing the editor for contempt of court or resign from the bench, read his written petition before the committee.

Others who testified were former Sheriff Tate, D. B. Sweeney and Abe Cohn. Many other Memphians have been on the witness stand.

E. B. Dye has been appointed assistant sergeant-at-arms at Memphis to summon witnesses from that city.

It is understood that the committee will set out in the articles of impeachment charges of personal conduct as well as official conduct. The articles of impeachment will be kept a secret until proof is taken and will then be presented to the house of representatives.

Edgington Hearing Ex Parte.

Immediately after its appointment, by the speaker, the house committee which will hear the evidence in Judge Jesse Edgington's impeachment case announced that it would adopt the constitutional suggestion that the house should sit only as a grand jury. This being true, the house must necessarily proceed ex parte and hear only one side of the case.

Governor Grants Pardon.

Gov. Rye has pardoned J. C. Sammons, sent up from Madison county in 1912 for forgery to serve six years. The petition sets out that there was reason to doubt the sanity of the man at the time the offense was committed. The trial judge and attorney-general were among those signing the petition. The governor paroled Bob Johnson, a negro, convicted in Davidson county of horse stealing and sentenced to six years. The prisoner has been in the penitentiary since 1911.

Harry L. Eskew has announced the appointment of T. M. Bachelder as chief clerk in the department of pure food and drugs, to succeed Frank S. Runyon, resigned. Mr. Bachelder has for several years been employed in the accounting department of the N. C. & St. L. railway.

Runyon's resignation was asked for by Commissioner Eskew because of sensational revelations as to his conduct while in Memphis last fall working up evidence against violators of the four-mile law.

Another Testimonial For CALUMET BAKING POWDER

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